



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/584,254	06/23/2006	Akinari Takada	062800-0119	1472
22428 7590 05/13/2009 FOLEY AND LARDNER LLP SUITE 500 3000 K STREET NW WASHINGTON, DC 20007			EXAMINER DOAN, KIET M	
			ART UNIT 2617	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 05/13/2009	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

# Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/584,254

**Applicant(s)**

CITIZEN WATCH CO

**Examiner**

KIET DOAN

**Art Unit**

2617

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 February 2009.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 4-10 and 12-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 4-10 and 12-14 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 15 and 16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB-083)
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- 5) ☐ Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 6) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 7) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is response to Applicant's Argument file on 02/17/09.

Claims 1, 4-7 and 15 are amended

Claim 16 is new

Claims 3 and 11 are cancelled.

### *Claim Objections*

2. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities:

The amendment of claim 1 did not including all of the limitations of the base claims. The missing the limitation is "**sequentially and/or synchronously**". Please see the example below. Appropriate correction is required.

**Claim 1** A radio controlled timepiece comprising:

a clocking unit configured to clock a time;

a display unit configured to display a time based on clock information from the clocking unit;

a receiving unit configured to receive standard radio waves from transmitting stations in at least two countries or regions;

a second-synchronization detecting unit configured to detect second-synchronization information from a demodulated signal obtained by the receiving unit, wherein the second-synchronization detecting unit includes:

an edge detecting unit configured to **sequentially or synchronously** detect rising edges of the demodulated signal; and

a synchronization determining unit configured to obtain the second-synchronization information of the demodulated signal based on the detected rising edges or the detected falling edges;

a transmitting station determining unit configured to analyze the demodulated signal based on the second-synchronization information to determine a transmitting station in a country or a region; and

a decoding unit configured to decode information included in the standard radio wave from the transmitting station determined by the transmitting station determining unit to obtain time information, wherein

the clock information of the clocking unit is corrected based on the time information obtained by the decoding unit.

➤ However, the amended of claim 15 and newly claim 16 are not in condition of allow due to the office have not conduct search and consideration in previous office action. Nonetheless, the office again contact applicant's representative Walter K. Robinson at (202) 295-4623 on 04/27/2009 and 05/07/2009 that suggested to cancelled claims 15 and 16 or amended claims that coordinate with claim 1 in order to speed up the expedite (allow) of application. However, Walter K. Robinson denial the suggestion and request an office action. Therefore, this instant office action is Final rejection for claim 15 and 16.

***Response to Arguments***

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 15 and 16 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 15 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ishii (US 6,728,533 B2) in view of Aoshima (US 6,192,007 B1) and further view of Kushita (US 6,166,651).

Consider **claims 15 and 16**. Ishii teaches a time correction method comprising:

a clocking unit configured to clock a time (Col. 3, lines 30-31 teach mobile phone contain clock 18),

a display unit configured to display a time based on clock information from the clocking step (Col.3, line 31).

a receiving unit configured to receive standard radio waves from transmitting stations in at least two countries or regions (Col. 3, lines 40-45 teach base station 1 and base station 2 transmitting in different regions time). Ishii **fails to explicitly teach**

a second-synchronization detecting unit configured to detect second-synchronization information from a demodulated signal obtained by the receiving step, wherein the second-synchronization detecting step includes:

a sampling step of detecting features of the demodulated signal; and  
an adding step of adding up a number of time of detection of the features of the demodulated signal;

a transmitting station determining unit configured to analyze the demodulated signal based on the second-synchronization information to determine a transmitting station in a country or a region; and

a decoding unit configured to decode information included in the standard radio wave from the transmitting station determined by the transmitting station determining unit to obtain time information, wherein

the clock information of the clocking unit is corrected based on the time information obtained by the decoding unit.

In an analogous art, **Aoshima teaches** a second-synchronization detecting unit configured to detect second-synchronization information from a demodulated signal obtained at the receiving steps (Col.8, lines 30-33, Fig.1, No.3 as read on second-synchronization detecting unit);

a transmitting station determining unit configured to analyze the demodulated signal based on the second-synchronization information to determine a transmitting station in a country or a region (Col.8, lines 65-67, Col.9, lines 1-4); and

a decoding unit configured to decode information included in the standard radio wave from the transmitting station determined by the transmitting station determining unit to obtain time information (Col.8, lines 50-61, Col.9, lines 16-20, Fig.1 show decoding section 4 and read on decoding unit), wherein

the clock information of the clocking unit is corrected based on the time information obtained at the decoding step (Col.1, lines52-52, Col.11, lines 20-33).

Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time that the invention was made to modify Ishii with Aoshima's system such that displaying correct clock when the device receiving radio wave in different regions in order to improve the mobile device received correct time when travel to different regions.

However the combination of Ishii and Aoshima are **silent on wherein the second-synchronization detecting step includes:**

a sampling step of detecting features of the demodulated signal; and  
an adding step of adding up a number of time of detection of the features of the demodulated signal

In an analogous art, **Kushita teaches wherein the second-synchronization detecting step includes:**

a sampling step of detecting features of the demodulated signal (Col.6, lines 17-20, lines 55-59, Fig.4 show receiving signal from 104 wherein detected and demodulated signal 106); and

an adding step of adding up a number of time of detection of the features of the demodulated signal (Col. 11, lines 25-32 and claim 9).

Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time that the invention was made to modify Ishii and Aoshima with Kushita's system such that displaying correct clock when the device receiving radio wave in different regions wherein synchronization and demodulated detecting signal in order to provide accuracy time/clock where ever the user located.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

1. Claims 1-2, 4-9 and 12 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the objection(s), set forth in this Office action.

***Conclusion***

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.



Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KIET DOAN whose telephone number is (571)272-7863. The examiner can normally be reached on 8am - 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Appiah N. Charles can be reached on 571-272-7904. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Kiet Doan/  
Examiner, Art Unit 2617

/Charles N. Appiah/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2617